



# Thirteen thousand years of southeastern Mediterranean climate variability inferred from an integrative planktic foraminiferal-based approach

Submitted by Emmanuel Lemoine on Tue, 09/16/2014 - 12:04

Titre	Thirteen thousand years of southeastern Mediterranean climate variability inferred from an integrative planktic foraminiferal-based approach
Type de publication	Article de revue
Auteur	Mojtahid, Meryem [1], Manceau, R. [2], Schiebel, Ralf [3], Hennekam, R. [4], De Lange, G.-J. [5]
Editeur	American Geophysical Union
Type	Article scientifique dans une revue à comité de lecture
Année	2015
Langue	Anglais
Date	04/2015
Numéro	4
Pagination	402-422
Volume	4
Section	30
Titre de la revue	Paleoceanography
ISSN	0883-8305
Résumé en anglais	<p>Over the past 13 ka, the hydrology for the southeastern Mediterranean was mainly regulated by Nile River runoff, which in turn was controlled by climate forcing. Being affected by orbital forcing, and the position of the Intertropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ), planktic foraminiferal data (assemblages, stable isotopes, and size properties) indicate three major periods. (1) From 13.0 to 11.5 ka, the upper water column was well-mixed, cold, and productive. (2) From 11.5 to 6.4 ka, hydrology and foraminifers were affected by intensified monsoonal circulation. The enhanced size of <i>Globigerinoides ruber</i> is interpreted as a response to environmental stress caused by low-saline waters. (3) After 6.4 ka, the southward retreat of the ITCZ caused a decrease in freshwater discharge and hence a return to ecological equilibrium. A drop in foraminifer diversity from 2.9 to 1.1 ka was related to more arid conditions, and limited supply of nutrients from the Nile River. We suggest a link to a negative North Atlantic Oscillation (NAO) marking the Roman Humid Period in the western Mediterranean, and in anti-phase with the southeastern Mediterranean aridity. Because Nile River runoff exerted major control on surface hydrology, a connection to Indian and Pacific climate systems partially controlling precipitation over the Nile catchment area is hypothesized. From 1.1 to 0.54 ka, high foraminifer diversity indicates humid conditions synchronous to the Medieval Climate Anomaly under a positive NAO state. Over the past 0.54 ka encompassing the Little Ice Age, another arid period is indicated by a drop in foraminifer diversity.</p>
URL de la notice	<a href="http://okina.univ-angers.fr/publications/ua3965">http://okina.univ-angers.fr/publications/ua3965</a> [6]

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- [7] <http://dx.doi.org/10.1002/2014PA002705>

Publié sur *Okina* (<http://okina.univ-angers.fr>)